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one actually was, HERSCHEL's drawing of 1805 would have been reproduced. It therefore appears to me that Mr. PICKERING's interesting photograph is a sufficient explanation of the anomalous figure of *Saturn* described by HERSCHEL. E. S. H.

SCIENTIFIC VISITORS TO THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

Mrs. R. A. PROCTOR has made an extended visit to the Lick Observatory, which was utilized in examining the work of the various departments and in actually studying the principal celestial objects, with special reference to her courses of astronomical lectures, already prepared, and to the preparation of new ones.—We learn that we are also to have the pleasure of seeing Dr. M. WILHELM MEYER, of Berlin, and Mr. COMMON, of London, during the present year. A few such visits will go very far towards breaking up our present sense of physical isolation, which is the only drawback to life at Mt. Hamilton.—Mr. W. W. CAMPBELL, Instructor of Astronomy in the University of Michigan, proposes to spend his summer here in practice with some of the instruments. E. S. H.

THE CONSTANTS OF THE REPSOLD MERIDIAN-CIRCLE OF THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

The constants of the meridian-circle of the Lick Observatory were observed daily, with few exceptions, during the time from October, 1888, to May, 1889, under the supervision of Prof. SCHAEFERLE, in charge of the instrument. The total number of determinations amounts to about one thousand. The observations, together with the temperature, were represented by curves, and the entire material was discussed. The following laws represent the variations of the constants with the temperature during the period of observation:

1. The *variations in the instrument* are greatest when the shutters are open during the night.
2. The *collimation* is quite constant and almost independent of changes of temperature, but shows a systematic decrease of $0^{\circ}.002$ a month from December, 1888, to May, 1889.
3. The *level-constant* varies inversely with the temperature, a change of one degree in the latter producing a change of $0^{\circ}.025$ in the former. The level-constant increased systematically $0^{\circ}.005$ a month for the time from October, 1888, to February, 1889.
4. The reading of the *azimuth-mark* (mire) varies directly with the temperature for micrometer-head west.
5. The reading of the *setting of the south on the north collimator*